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MARTLET

The University of Victoria's Independent Newspaper | www.martlet.ca
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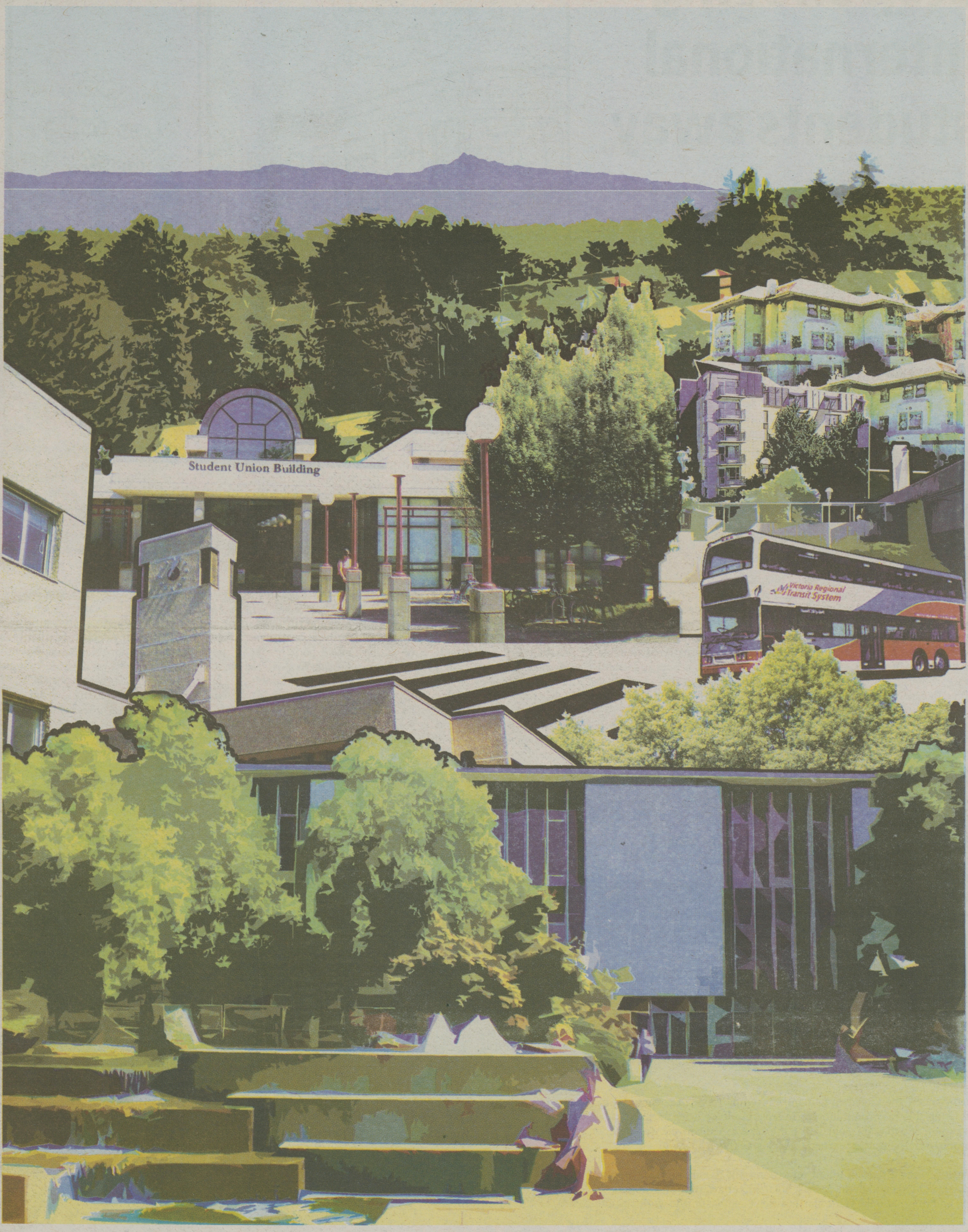

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Editorial

Stop shoving international students away

Canada has a labour shortage. Heck, Canada has a labour crisis.

A January report by Human Resources and Social Development Canada identified a shortage of workers in many important occupations. The shortage is worst in the health care sector, where Canada is lacking doctors, nurses, pharmacists, medical technicians and dental assistants.

Jobs in management, oil and gas, construction, computer engineering and in academia are opening up in large numbers. The Canadian Federation of Independent Business estimated there were 251,000 long-term job vacancies in Canada last year—30,000 in British Canada alone.

It doesn't take a brain surgeon to reason that with more unfilled jobs than the population of Saskatoon, the Canadian government should be eager to attract bright young people to Canada to earn a degree and start a career. It's vital to keeping our economy healthy.

Think again. After paying $125 to have their study permit reviewed, a prospective international student must prove they have enough money to pay for tuition fees, living expenses and return transportation to their country of origin. Let's not forget that an international student pays more than three times as much tuition as a Canadian student at UVic. For those keeping score at home, it's $14,532 for a full ten-course load. And international students can't access the Canadian Student Loans program for help. If they did, you could bet that many more students would come to Canada.

You'd think that in order to make a Canadian education more affordable for the most talented young immigrants, and in order to fill some of those 251,000 empty jobs, we'd set international students to work. Jobs and merit-based scholarships are an international student's only funding *options once they get here, as they're not eligible* for needs-based bursaries from UVic or student loans. Despite this, international students are limited to 20 hours of work per week during the school year—and they're required to maintain a full course load. Only during the summer can an international student work full-time.

That's just on campus, where many jobs are funded through UVic's Work Study Program which requires applicants to demonstrate financial need. That can be tricky to do when a student has to prove to the Canadian government that they have enough money before they arrive. If a student wants to work off-campus, they need to fork over $150 to apply for a special work permit, and they can only do that after completing a full academic year in Canada.

Well, at least international students are encouraged to work in Canada *after* they earn their degree, right?

Actually, it's the opposite. In order to obtain their Canadian study visa in the first place, applicants must satisfy an immigration officer that they'll leave Canada after earning their degree. In other words, prospective students must prove they'll take their degree and run. Perhaps the Canadian government has forgotten about the 251,000 jobs that need filling if our economy is to continue at its current pace. Indeed, it seems our government is intent on booting out international students as soon as possible after they've earned their degree.

Despite their earlier promise to leave, international students can apply for a post-graduate work permit once they're finished school. But they have to find a job first—and only have 90 days after their last exam is marked to do it, or they're sent home. And not just any job—it must be directly related to the student's degree.

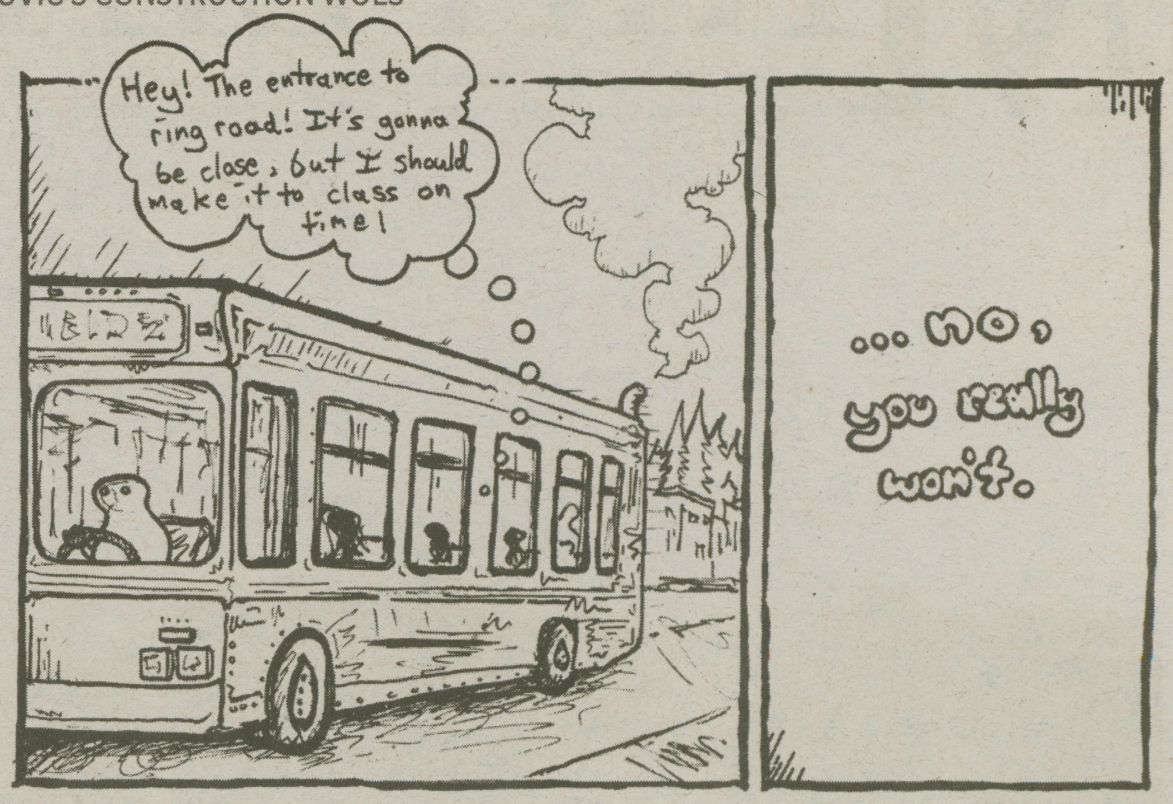
Furthermore, they need to convince an employer to hire them without being able to commit long-term. Post-graduate work permits last a maximum of two years—one year if the job is in Vancouver, Montreal or Toronto or if the student earned their degree there.

The government is even intent on kicking out the crème de la crème. Students gifted enough to earn a scholarship or award from Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada aren't eligible for the work permit.

It's clear our country has the ability to attract the best and brightest immigrants from around the world—more than 130,000 international students are attending our universities right now. But we're sure earning a failing grade at keeping them here, and that's got to change. More than a quarter of a million jobs are at stake.

Editorial topics are decided on by staff at our regular editorial meetings in the *Martlet* office (SUB B011). Editorials are written by one or more staff members and are not necessarily the opinion of all staff members.

UVIC'S CONSTRUCTION WOES



MARC JUNKER GRAPHIC

DISABILITY WRITES

Waiting for invite to diversity 'celebration'

by Rose Mariana Robb

Even after a zillion multicultural festivals, I don't understand why we're expected to celebrate the need to get along with all kinds of people.

I'm not the only one questioning the relentlessly positive message about diversity. But when people think of diversity, they often overlook disability. One reason for this is the way we talk about "celebrating" diversity.

Disability is a constant, naturally occurring variation present amongst all peoples. Whether acquired or there from birth, disability is an aspect of human diversity.

In theory, the more contact we have with people that are different from us, the more understanding and accepting we become.

However, Harvard political scientist Robert Putnam suggests it's hard to feel connected to people who aren't very much like ourselves. Putnam's recently released a five-year study which links greater diversity to greater stress, less trust, and more social isolation. Living with diversity of all kinds is more challenging than we like to think.

This is particularly true for disability, and makes it harder to recognize that the disability movement is a social justice movement. Part of the problem is it's hard to imagine celebrating disability.

Think about it.

What's to celebrate? After all, we don't cheer when someone we know is blinded in an accident. We don't throw a party when a friend dives into a pool, breaks his neck and winds up in a wheelchair. The hard fact is that disability is not inherently festive—it is inherently frightening.

Human beings are usually frightened of becoming disabled and it is uncomfortable to adjust to the presence of people who trigger our fears. This is one reason why people with disabilities can find it is a struggle to feel accepted, respected, and included.

It's too bad, because we have a lot to bring to the party. I believe we can expand what's possible for everyone.

One of my favourite quotes is a comment made in passing by Kyla Berry, a blind member of Access UVic. "I think blind people should be the judges at beauty contests," she said.

It reminded me that there's more to beauty than meets the eye. That's an insight blind people can't help but have.

While the idea of becoming disabled may be scary, the reality is that life is just as interesting and sweet when you have a disability as when you don't. Different, but not necessarily worse. Disabled people represent a broader possibility of what community life is about.

Putnam concludes his study with the view that we shouldn't give up on creating more inclusive communities. However, we need to be more realistic about how unsettling difference is, and give ourselves more time to adapt.

I agree. In the long run, we'll have more to celebrate.

Rose Mariana Robb is the director of Access UVic, the disability advocacy centre in the Student Union Building.

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University of Victoria's Independent Newspaper

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Cover art by Jennifer Zhou

The Martlet Publishing Society is an incorporated B.C. society and a full member of Canadian University Press (CUP). We strive to act as an agent of constructive social change and we will not print racist, sexist, homophobic or otherwise oppressive copy.

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Happy? Sad? Enraged? Engaged? Tell us: letters@martlet.ca

Martlet has an open letters policy and will endeavour to print every letter received from the university community, with priority given to undergraduate students. Letters must be typewritten, submitted on disk or by e-mail and include your name and student number for verification. Letters must be under 200 words and may be edited for length. Deadline for letters is 10 a.m. on the Monday before publication. Letters with pseudonyms or group names will not be printed.

JOSH SZCZEPANOWSKI PHOTO

A memorial outside 856 Villance Street honours UVic students Brenna Innes and Chelsea Robinson, who were killed in an Aug. 6 fire at the duplex. The address numbers in front of the house were melted in the blaze.

Tragic house fire claims lives of two students

by David Karp

A fire early Aug. 6 claimed the life of two UVic students. The blaze happened at a duplex at 856 Villance Street, three blocks from Mayfair Mall.

Brenna Innes and Chelsea Robinson were visiting a friend who lived in the duplex, and were unable to escape. According to a coroner's report, they both died of smoke inhalation.

Robinson, 22, was studying psychology and business and scheduled to graduate next year.

Robinson is from Sechelt, on the Sunshine Coast. She worked as a bartender and server at Ambrosia Catering and Event Centre this summer. She recently became an aunt, and planned to devote her life to children after graduation.

A private family service was held for Robinson on Aug. 13, and a memorial service was held at the Holy Family Catholic Church in Sechelt on Aug. 14.

Innes, 21, was a computer science major who completed her second year. She graduated from Point Grey High School in Vancouver.

Innes was working as a research assistant this summer with computer science professor Wendy Myrvold, helping to develop a computer program to allow chemists to visualize and investigate molecules.

"Brenna was vibrant, energetic, and enthusiastic," Myrvold said in an email. "I had visions of her completing a master's degree, a PhD and eventually becoming a professor involved in her own research."

Innes was nicknamed "B" and volunteered with the Best Buddies program at UVic to help people with a disability.

A scholarship in Innes' name has been set up through Point Grey Secondary School in Vancouver. Donations can be sent to The Brenna Innes Memorial Scholarship Fund, c/o Vancouver School Board, 1580 W. Broadway, Vancouver, BC, V6J 5K8.

A memorial service for Innes was on Aug. 15 at the Unitarian Church in Sechelt.

"We send our condolences to the families," said UVic students' society chairperson Tracy Ho.

The deaths have caused an outpouring of condolences on the Facebook pages of the two girls, as well as in a Facebook group titled Remembering Chelsea Robinson.

Five males, all UVic students, were also in the house when the fire occurred. Two of them—Joe Booker and Jesse Dill—survived the blaze but received extensive burns. The other men were Michael Krolikowski, Aaron De Jong and Gavin Wilson.

Only Booker was a resident in the house. The rest were visiting when the fire occurred.

As of press time, police and fire officials were still investigating the cause of the fire. A police spokeswoman said foul play is not suspected.

A benefit concert to support the tenants of the Villance duplex is scheduled for Sept. 7 at Felicita's, the UVic campus pub. Local '70s and '80s cover band School of Rock will be playing. A minimum donation of $2 is required, with proceeds going directly to the residents.

The Martlet is hiring!

The Martlet is looking for energetic and exciting people to fill the following positions:

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Opinions Editor
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Photographer
Staff Writer

HOW TO APPLY: Bring your resume, a cover letter stating which position(s) you are applying for, and samples of your work (if applicable) to the Martlet office (SUB B011) or submit by email to maned@martlet.ca by noon, Wednesday, September 12th.

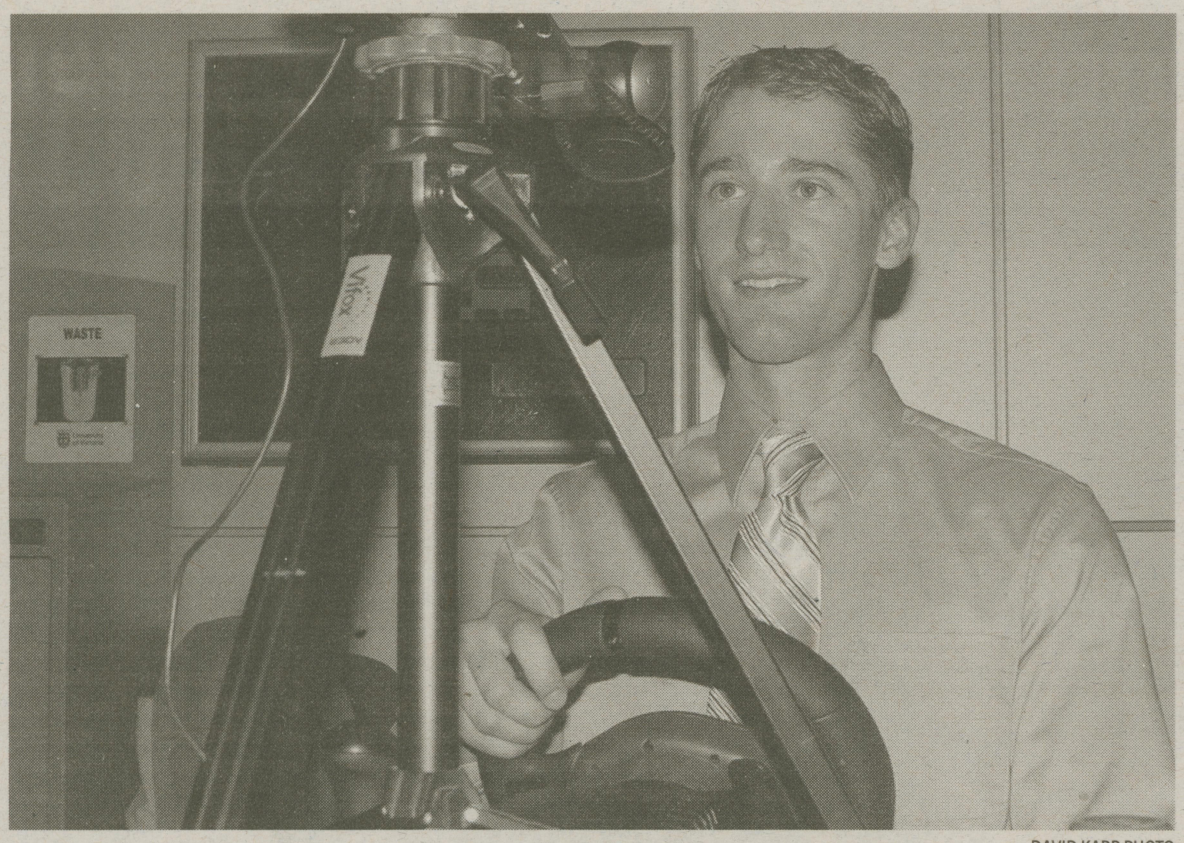
All applicants should apply for Work Study authorization (see the Student Awards and Financial Aid office, located on the second floor of the University Centre building - registrar.uvic.ca/safa/workstudy/workstudyindex.html). All applicants, Work Study eligible or not, will be considered for employment.

Detailed description of jobs at Martlet.ca/hiring.doc

Got Bike?

The Martlet is looking for somebody to distribute our paper to our drop-off points on campus and around town. We supply the bicycle and trailer. Get some exercise, ride safely, earn some cash and have fun doing it. Be a vital part of the Martlet team!

Submit your resume and cover letter to maned@martlet.ca by noon, August 29th (or sooner!)



DAVID KARP PHOTO

Ben Widsten demonstrates his engineering project, which helps people stay awake in their cars.

Wake-up call for drivers

UVic students invent alarm that prevents sleep behind the wheel

by David Karp

Falling asleep at the wheel may be a thing of the past, thanks to an invention by a team of UVic electrical engineering students.

The Sleep Surveillance System, developed by Ben Widsten, Tiange Wang, Jordana Mah and Julie Lan for their fourth-year project, sounds an alarm when the driver of a car starts to fall asleep.

A webcam takes pictures of the driver's eyes to constantly determine if they are open or closed.

"The webcam is like a binary number," said Wang. "We use pattern recognition to compare the images."

A computer algorithm interprets the data from the webcam using a method called digital signal processing. If the driver's eyes are shut for more than 1.5 seconds, an alarm sounds to wake up the driver.

The 1.5-second threshold is to prevent the alarm going off from the driver blinking, said Wang.

Widsten came up with the idea for the alarm during his tough morning commutes while on a co-op term in Alberta. "He'd drink lots of coffee while he was driving, and it didn't always work," explained Wang. "He'd fall asleep sometimes."

The technology, which took about three months to develop, only costs about $100 to produce.

While the alarm has the potential to save lives, it's possible that more people may drive tired if they have the added comfort of an alarm. But Widsten says that's not the product's aim.

"It's not to extend your driving," he said. "It's to tell you when to take a rest."

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Oak Bay denies bike lanes to UVic

by Sam VanSchie

Bike lanes continue to stop abruptly at the Oak Bay boundary on Henderson Road after Oak Bay Municipal Council defeated a motion to complete the network to UVic.

An estimated 1,000 cyclists use the route daily, many of them on their way to campus. But a new paint job for the 1.1 kilometre stretch of road would cost $20,000. It would also replace current street parking, a prospect not everybody was excited about.

"The majority of residents don't want to lose their parking," Coun. John Herbert said, his voice wavering as he read from a prepared speech at the July 23 Oak Bay Municipal Council meeting.

The issue of bike lanes has been contentious. In the weeks leading up to the meeting, Oak Bay and regional residents bombarded the councillors with their opinions. Lobby groups such as Safer Cycling Oak Bay posted councillors' personal contact information on the Internet. And councillors studied a package of 20 reports from stakeholders before making their decision.

In the end, council defeated the motion 4-3.

Of the four councillors voting against the motion, only Herbert was fundamentally against bike lanes. The other three—Coun. Hazel Braithwaite, Coun. Allan Cassidy and Coun. Frank Carson—noted that they generally supported bike lanes but weren't ready to put municipal resources into completing the one on Henderson Road at this time.

"We'd be using our limited resources in an emotional manner, not a rational one," Braithwaite said, noting a lack of conclusive research showing the road to be a safety hazard to cyclists. She said there were more dangerous areas of Oak Bay that should be dealt with first.

The northern portion of Henderson Road is wide and flat with good visibility. Current bylaws prevent roadside parking during peak hours. The posted speed limit is 40 km/h, though few motorists abide by it.

Coun. Pam Copley acknowledged the limited risk factor on the road, but believed lanes would increase comfort level of cyclists and that it was important for Oak Bay to follow the lead of the rest of the region.

"We should be taking initiative to show we support cycling lanes and complete the network [from downtown to the university]," said Copley.

Coun. Nils Jenson, over the audible groans from some people in attendance as well as Herbert, spoke in supported of the motion. "This is one step forward, albeit a small one, to address climate change," he said. "One of our goals should be creating a livable, walkable, bikeable community...this is the first stage."

After a lengthy debate, Cassidy asked that the motion be tabled. "I don't want to vote against something I support," he said, explaining that he would support it in the future if there was greater consultation with the residents and a plan to allow both parking and bike lanes.

But the motion went forward, so Cassidy voted against the lanes. He also didn't support the next motion—which passed with a 4-2 vote—that lanes be considered in the 2008 municipal budget, with $15,000 three-car parking bays included in the plan.

Victoria fails to win injunction

by David Koch

A B.C. Supreme Court judge dismissed the City of Victoria's application for a permanent injunction that may have restricted homeless people from setting up another tent city at Cridge Park in downtown Victoria.

The injunction, which was rejected Aug. 13, would have been a potential roadblock in the campaign for homeless people's "right to sleep."

Lawyers Irene Faulkner and Catherine Boies Parker said bylaws that make it illegal to sleep overnight in parks violate homeless people's rights under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. They're planning to challenge the constitutionality of those bylaws in the fall. But if the injunction had been successful, the B.C. Supreme Court may have refused to hear their case, which is scheduled for September.

"The way things are standing right now, we'll be looking to move ahead with the trial on Sept. 4," Faulkner said. "This is great news on our side."

The city had asked the court for an injunction banning people from activities such as damaging trees and preventing others from enjoying Cridge Park, which is located at Belleville Street and Blanshard Street. According to Bruce Jordan, a lawyer for the city, the point of the application was to prevent the park from being "occupied," as it was in October 2005, when a group of about 20 homeless people set up camp there.

The activities that the injunction would have banned are already prohibited by local bylaws. The city usually gives out fines when bylaws are broken, but this isn't effective with homeless people, Jordan explained.

"They could issue tickets, but many people are saying that they are homeless, so issuing tickets wouldn't achieve the desired end," Jordan said.

Violating an injunction can result in a contempt of court charge.

In 2005, the city won a 10-month injunction from the B.C. Supreme Court that banned people at Cridge Park from activities such as sleeping outside, which Victoria's bylaws also prohibit. Although that injunction expired last year, the bylaws remain in place, and continue to generate controversy.

In a video posted last month on HomelessNation.org, Boies Parker said, "The underlying issue is the constitutionality of the bylaws that make it illegal to sleep outside."

Boies Parker and Faulkner said that Victoria's laws deprive homeless people of security by preventing them from sleeping outside in a city that lacks shelter spaces. Section 7 of the Charter guarantees security of the person.

They also said that the bylaws have a disproportionate effect on homeless people, violating their Section 15 right to equality before the law.

Jordan said that a successful application might have meant courts would not hear the Charter challenge, so the disputed bylaws would remain in place.

For now, it looks like the challenge will proceed in September. If not, there may be some strong objections.

David Johnston—who was repeatedly arrested for sleeping at St. Ann's Academy, a provincially owned property next to Cridge Park—said that he is willing to be arrested again so that courts will face the issue. He also said that he will not eat as long as he is in jail. Johnston fasted for 36 days straight in prison last year.

"Government has a responsibility not to maliciously attack people who are providing for themselves," Johnston said.

BOARD BRIEF

Virtue lashes out at colleagues

UVic Students' Society (UVSS) director of services Erica Virtue stormed out of the society's July 25 board of directors meeting after a motion she presented was defeated.

"[Board members] are caught up in their petty arguments," Virtue told the Martlet after storming out. "It's more of an issue that they don't like me and they don't care about clubs or students."

Virtue's six-and-a-half page motion would have brought sweeping changes to board of directors' policy on student clubs.

The motion, which needed two-thirds support to pass, only received support from Virtue and directors-at-large Corinne Harbidge and Rebecca Lang. Six board members voted against it.

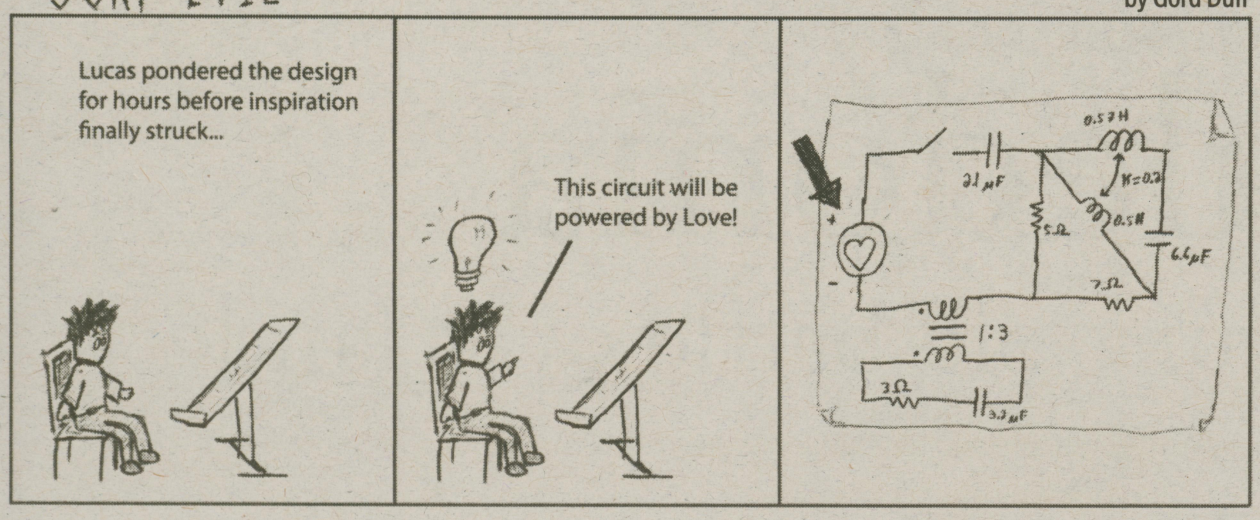
"If you listen to some of the discussion, it was all about the policy—not about the person," said board chair Tracy Ho. "There were concerns about changing the policy so that it was harder for some clubs to get club status."

The change would have prevented clubs with overlapping mandates from receiving UVSS funding. Club funding would be also allocated by number of members, rather than the current system of equal funding for each club.

- David Karp

CORP EVIL

by Gord Duff



END ANGERED SHARKS

THE ADVENTURES OF BASKY AND PORBEAGLE

BY STEVE CAREY

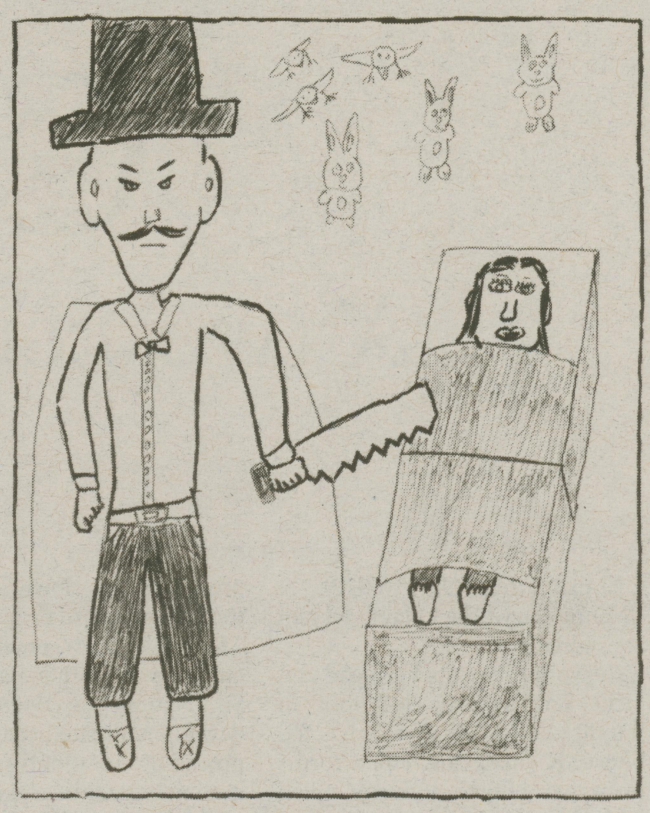
BASKING SHARK ENTHUSIAST

You broke up with your girlfriend?
I came home to find her partying with sweaty, shirtless sheet-metal workers,
Always trying to park their trucks in her driveway...
By 'trucks in her driveway,' you mean...
Basky the basking shark Status: Functionally Extinct
Porbeagle Shark Status: Super Rare

FUN FACT: April 24, 2006 was the 50th anniversary of a 34 basking shark massacre by the department of fisheries. No one mentioned it.

DATING A MAGICIAN

by David Karp



"Half of me wants to be with you, but I feel like I'm missing a part of myself."

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7				5			4	9
	5						8	
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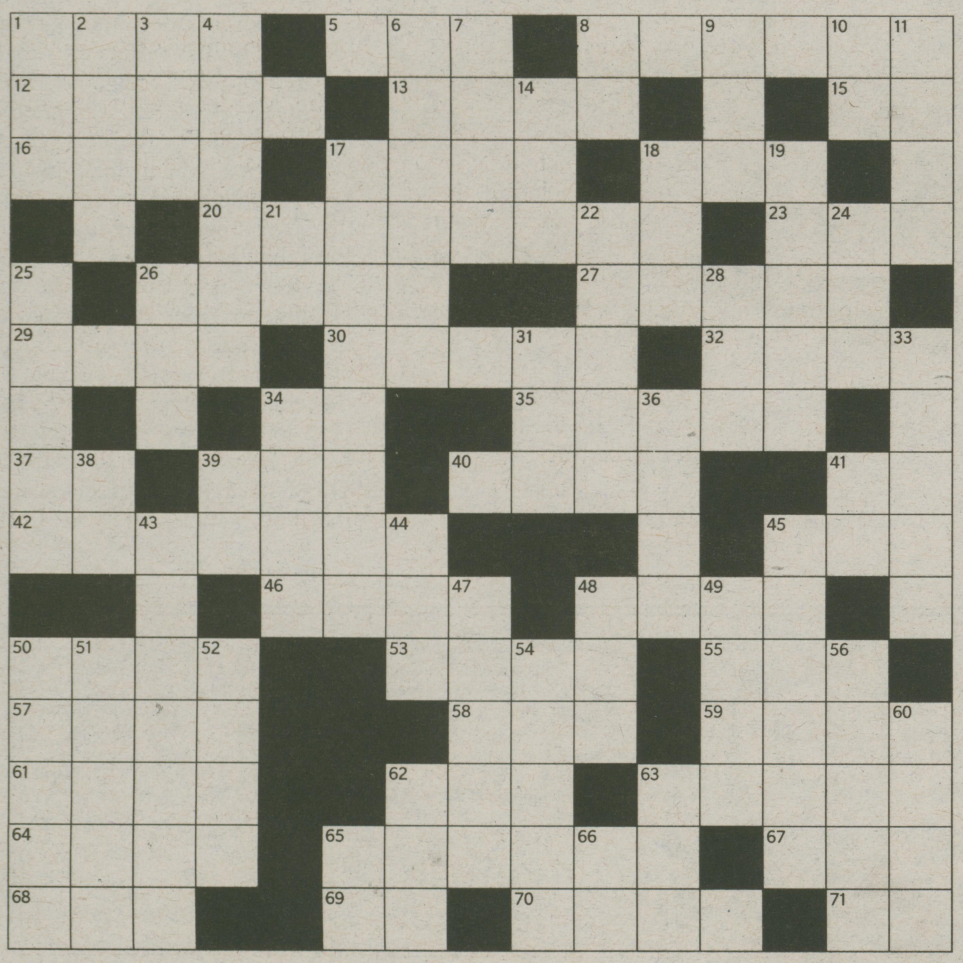
For answers, visit our website, or pick up the Sept. 6 issue of the *Martlet*



The Martlet Crossword by David Karp

ACROSS

1 To take drugs
5 — *Given Sunday*
8 Court cases
12 Obliterate
13 Bubbly chocolate bar
15 Kevin Lowe or Dave Nonis (e.g.)
16 Police officer
17 Hawaiian party
18 Famous 1990 armed standoff between Mohawks and police
20 Increase
23 Popular Christmas drink
26 *Super Mario* princess
27 Circular
29 *Inspector Gadget*'s Dr. —
30 Fish-eating marine mammal
32 *In Flanders Field* (e.g.)
34 Arkansas abbrev.
35 Unclean
37 A note to follow so
39 Video file format
40 Most frequent number
41 Roughly equal to 3.14159
42 Diagonally crossing bars
45 Married female abbrev.
46 Cold cuts retailer
48 Pirate greeting
50 Greater Vancouver area (abbrev.)
53 Form of quartz
55 Victoria-Hillside MLA Fleming
57 Canuck defenseman Fitzpatrick
58 Female deer
59 *Iliad* or *Paradise Lost* (e.g.)
61 Tennessee author of *A Death in the Family*
62 Travelled on
63 Unwanted sound
64 Steve Nash's team
65 One who wants excessively
67 Deceive
68 Six games won in tennis
69 European governing body (abbrev.)
70 Crazy
71 Central Canadian territory (abbrev.)

DOWN

1 Room for reading or relaxing
2 Done with the mouth
3 Expected score for first-class golfer
4 Carefully or deliberately avoid
6 Nothing
7 Yes (slang)
8 Toronto (slang)
9 Sign a contract
10 South Korean electronics company
11 Pollution-induced fog
14 Pothole
17 Long rope-like candy
18 John Lennon's wife
19 Bug or goad
21 *Need For Speed* and *The Sims* producer
22 Made a mistake
24 Beethoven's — *to Joy*
25 Type of rowing stroke
26 Apartment (slang)
28 World's largest delivery company
31 Dashboard Confessional or Bright Eyes (e.g.)
33 A little wet
34 Enthusiastic
36 Actors Green or Rogan
38 Support group for alcoholics (abbrev.)
39 Email address component
41 Newspaper coverage of a celebrity (abbrev.)
43 File download method
44 Chess rating system
45 Having short-sightedness
47 Band not on a major record label
48 Fire an employee (slang)
49 Popular sandwich cookie
50 Yard essential
51 Very fashionable
52 Changes the colour
54 Sing like a Swiss mountaineer
56 Alternative meat for burgers
60 Penny
62 Victoria's other public university (abbrev.)
63 Largest U.S. city (abbrev.)
65 World's second-largest public company
66 To perform or carry out

Caledonia

A two-century-old battle over land

by Ashley Walters and Richard Johnson

Photographs by Dean Bradley

CALEDONIA, Ont. (CUP) — "Wanna see where I play?" asks an aboriginal girl.

The youngster tilts her head and kicks one sneaker-clad foot in the dirt beside a half-constructed house. A small dust cloud forms from her efforts and she, filled with delight, skips down the dirt driveway, disappearing behind the large, rambling structure with her friend, another young girl. They duck in and out of holes in the house's interior and pull at the pink insulation and Styrofoam guts of a wall.

The house is one of half a dozen partially constructed buildings that were intended to be part of a residential subdivision, Douglas Creek Estates. It is now a symbol of indigenous struggles against colonialism.

Its construction came to a halt last year when a small group representing the Six Nations Iroquois Confederacy camped out at the site, asserting Native land rights. Now, the protesters are slowly dismantling the houses, board by board.

June 29, 2007 seemed no different than any other day since the Six Nations' occupation of the development site began. Over the preceding 16 months, the reclamation has continued unabated.

The dispute in Caledonia, a small community in southern Ontario, is viewed by some as yet another rancorous dispute between "white" Canada and the land's aboriginal inhabitants. More than a year of protests have been characterized by rail blockades, frequent, and sometimes violent, encounters with the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), counter-demonstrations from Caledonia residents and intermittent attempts at negotiations involving local, provincial and federal levels of government.

The June 29 National Day of Action, a premeditated—though unscripted—day of protest and awareness organized by Canada's First Nations, was a serious moment. Though somber and circumspect, the protesters in Caledonia demonstrate an undeniable sense of empowerment by their small success, a feeling that can only emerge from a nothing-to-lose state of desperation. If Caledonia can be resolved, they believe, it could serve as a model for aboriginal claims across the country.

Six Nations spokesperson Janie Jamieson, a calm and unobtrusive woman, sat on a concrete barrier near the entrance to the protest site, speaking with the small gaggle of reporters who made the trip to Caledonia from nearby Toronto. On that very spot, she said, "We were attacked last year by the OPP several times. I was also attacked right here by a drunk non-native [counter-protester]. I've even had death threats placed upon me. But here we are."

Moments later, a black SUV edged past the barricades and parked beside the plywood building that served as the impromptu headquarters of the protest. About a dozen aboriginal protesters are seated outside the building, chatting with each other and sharing cigarettes. Mohawk activist Dawn Smith, 33, limped out of the vehicle, favouring her left leg, and climbed onto the porch. Clutching a copy of the pamphlet that served as the protesters' media guide, she spoke with an expected air of defiance.

"We've accomplished something here that our ancestors were unable to do. If we didn't have a legitimate claim [to this land], we'd have been out of here in a day," she said, suggesting that Canadian authorities have not been able to legally prove that land on which she now sits belongs to any party other than the Six Nations of the Grand River.

The 40 hectares of Douglas Creek Estates is a tiny parcel of land on what was, more than 200 years ago, the Haldimand Grant: 833,333 hectares of territory—9.6 kilometres on each side of the length of the Grand River—awarded to Chief Joseph Brant and the Six Nations Iroquois Confederacy in 1784 by then-governor general Sir Frederick Haldimand. The land served as compensation for native territory in New York state that was lost during the American Revolution as a result of their military service and loyalty to the Crown.

Henco Industries Limited, a development company, then purchased the 40 hectares from the province of Ontario in 1992. Construction of homes didn't begin until 2005, when Henco received the official title to the land after a lengthy lawsuit filed by the Six Nations against the province in 1995 failed to convince Ontario authorities that the land was legally aboriginal territory.

When the houses began to go up, the Six Nations took the action that has kept them on the site to this day. In May of last year, the government of Ontario bought back the land of Douglas Creek Estates from Henco for an undisclosed sum, removing the private third party from the dispute.

Sidney L. Harring, a law professor at the City University of New York, chronicled contradictory government practices toward aboriginal communities in his 1998 book, *White Man's Law: Native People in Nineteenth-Century Canadian Jurisprudence*. According to the book, white loyalists who fought and lost territory during the American Revolution were awarded similar land rights by the British Crown and protected against other white settlers. Indigenous tribes received no such protection.

An 1809 resolution, Harring noted, listed white settlers and their violations toward indigenous land claims. The resolution was ignored by a government ruling, citing lack of capacity. Meanwhile, similar claims made by whites resulted in the government removing settlers from their land.

In the two centuries since the Haldimand Tract was awarded to the Six Nations Iroquois Confederacy, controversy regarding its ownership has raged. In 1792, Lt.-Gov. John Graves Simcoe considerably reduced the tract's size to 111,000 hectares. Four years later, the Six Nations granted Chief

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Brant power of attorney to sell off portions of the land and invest the profits. Then, in 1825, the Six Nations conceded to lease parts of their property to the Crown, resulting in the Crown's allegedly illegal sale of that property to third parties, despite protests by natives.

For the next century, the Crown struggled to maintain ownership of the land while the Six Nations attempted to reclaim what they called their own. The Crown sold portions of the land to other parties and recommended, in 1840, that 8,000 hectares be used as a reserve for the tribe and the remaining land sold.

The Six Nations dissent was mixed. Although the tribe asserted the power to lease, not resell, the land was granted to the Crown. Documents referred to by the Crown state that in 1841, the Six Nations council agreed to have the land outside of the reserve sold, on the condition that the proceeds be reinvested on behalf of the tribe. Whether the proceeds were in fact invested to help Canada's First Nations is still contested.

For two years, the tribe protested and petitioned against the surrender of the land, restating that their original agreement was to lease, not to sell. In 1843, the Crown offered the Six Nations 19,000 hectares of the 22,000 they had petitioned for (excluding other land tracts that the tribe requested to lease). The Six Nations chiefs accepted this offer, and ever since have been confined to the Grand River reserve.

An 1844 document signed by 47 Six Nations chiefs appears to authorize the sale of the Haldimand Tract land to the Crown. But ever since that day, dissenters have disputed the legitimacy of the document, claiming it to be in violation of earlier agreements with the Crown.

A century and a half later, on the National Day of Action, the expressions of dissent from members of Canada's First Nations take a variety of forms. On that day, Assembly of First Nations Chief Phil Fontaine marched in a peaceful demonstration in Ottawa next to New Democratic Party leader Jack Layton and Liberal leader Stéphane Dion.

Fontaine told the Toronto Star before the march that Canada's First Nations have "worked very hard to reach agreements in a peaceful an honourable way." In contrast, supporters of Mohawk dissident Shawn Brant blockaded Highway 401 near Belleville, Ont., claiming that they cannot, in good conscience, be law-abiding when the laws in question do not support their rights as indigenous people.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper's Conservative government has opposed implementation of the Kelowna Accord, a document forged by the previous Liberal government, in consultation with First Nations representatives, to address the root problems in aboriginal societies. In the days before the National Day of Action, Harper announced he would establish an independent commission to resolve aboriginal land claims expediently, and would earmark $150 million specifically to resolve the Caledonia dispute with the Six Nations.

Under Fontaine, the Assembly of First Nations has been involved in these negotiations with the federal government, applauding the latter's increased role alongside the government of Ontario.

To the participants in the Six Nations' protest at Douglas Creek Estates, though, the efforts by the federal and provincial governments, and even the Assembly of First Nations, only accentuate the disparity in perceptions of Caledonia and other disputes. Ottawa is willing to throw money and legal commissions at the problem, while the protestors speak of rights and justice. Fontaine urges law-abiding dissent, while protestors such as and Dawn Smith and Brant believe that the dire situation of Canada's aboriginal people demands more visible action, as opposed to quiet marches on Parliament Hill.

Mohawk Chief Allan MacNaughton, also involved in the negotiations, told the Hamilton Spectator that Ottawa's current strategy is "not going to apply to us. We already have a different process going."

He believes, as Maclean's reported, that only by resolving the Caledonia dispute will Ottawa and the Ontario government find the basis for legislation that will help illuminate the way for the rest of Canada's aboriginal disputes.

"The Assembly of First Nations," bristled Dawn Smith, "is an arm of the white government. [Our confederacy has] been protesting every day the fact that [the Canadian government] thought they had the divine right to take our land."

Beyond money, laws and the land itself, it is something altogether more abstract that the protestors hope to achieve.

"A responsible society challenges its government," Smith said. "And a responsible government listens to its people." What she and the other protestors here are advocating is a history lesson—or, more accurately, a truth lesson—for all of Canada.

"The truth is being censored," Smith said. "Many [white] people here in Caledonia, the ones that have been here for generations, understand the history of the agreements with the confederacy, that our land was never to be sold, that [our rights] are sacred. Others must know this too."

In many ways, the National Day of Action was conceived for just this very purpose: to call the attention of all Canadians to the causes of desperation felt by the communities of this country's original inhabitants. They wanted people to know about the poverty, neglect, alcoholism, high suicide rates and depression—the injustice—omnipresent in their communities. It's not just about land, they say, not just about money.

"Every day the sun rises, we do something here," Smith said.

Somewhere in the distance, the two little girls continued to scamper in and out of a slowly decaying house.

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UVic students Fringe off

What: Victoria Fringe Festival
When: Aug. 23 to Sept. 2
Where: Seven downtown venues
How much: Under $10

by Sam VanSchie

Nearly 50 comedy, drama, dance, music and spoken word performances. Eleven days. Cheap. Uncensored.

That's Victoria's 21st-annual Fringe Festival.

While the festival's many talents hail from around the globe, there are plenty of UVic students and alumni in the mix—talk about motivation during the summer months. Here is some of what UVic's finest are working on for this year's Fringe.

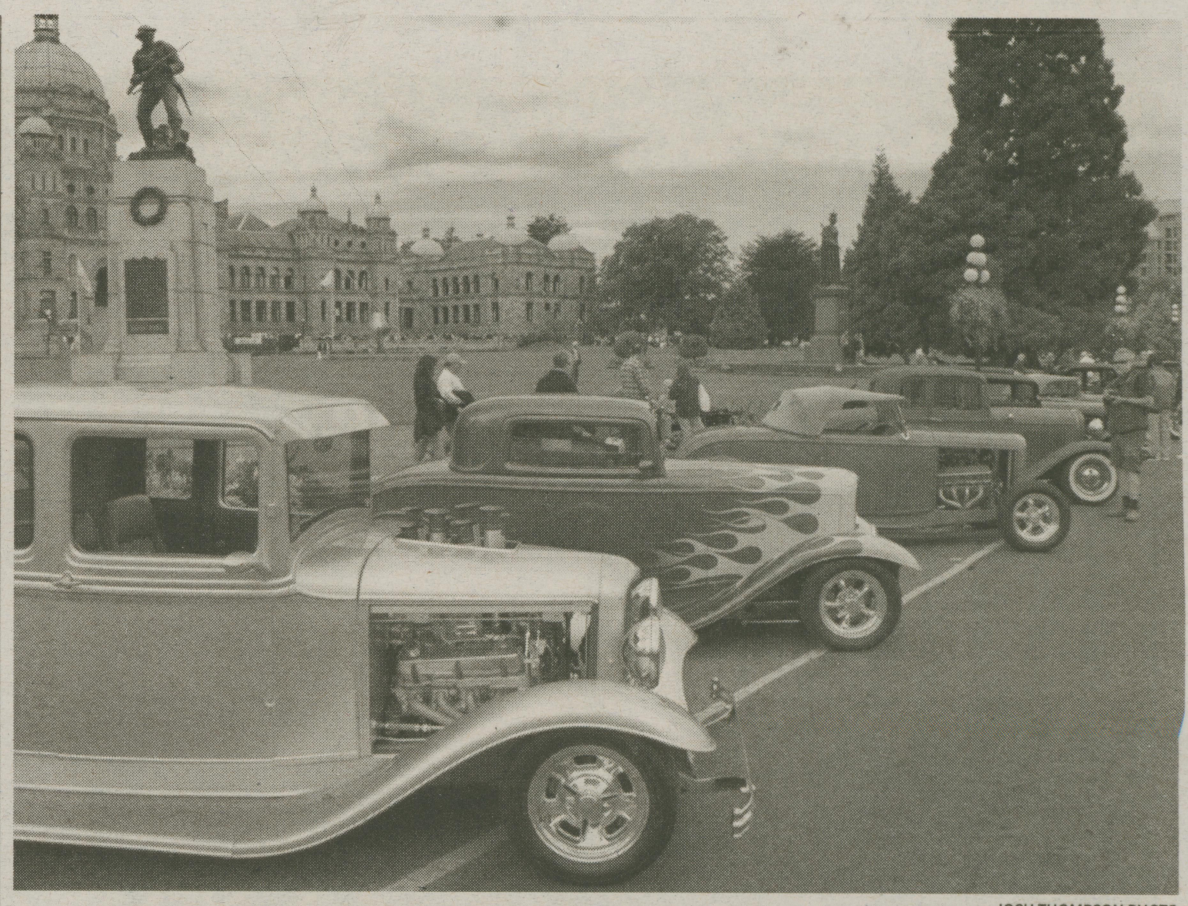
Mute
Originally a playwriting assignment, fourth-year writing student Wren Handman has worked with her director and father to put this drama on the stage. Fitting, because *Mute* is about family—relatives are forced to pull together when they face a tragedy. A faithful brother must prove that he's fit to care for his sister or face losing her to social workers.

The Shy Sensationalist
For anybody who's ever worked in a restaurant to pay the rent, partied too hard and wondered why they're living off canned food *(yes, most students)*, UVic writing student Marie-Helen Westgate penned this tragic comedy. Set in Toronto, but with cast and crew of mostly UVic students and alumni, Westgate admits that the play is entirely about her.

Pitch Blond
Here's a recent UVic theatre graduate that likes to multi-task. Laura Harris is the writer, producer, and lone actor in this drama about the life of Vancouver actor Judy Holliday. Harris recreates unknown aspects of the actor's life as she testifies before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee, showing that Holliday is more than the dumb blond she typically plays on screen.

Chip-Pop!: A Musical Sexploitation
Priced for the student budget—it's free—fourth year theatre student Carey Wass wrote, directed, and stars in this musical "sexploitation." The plot: a pop music prodigy discovering his calling to create crappy, sexual lyrics to the beat of a cheap digital keyboard. Perhaps this is supposed to be the kind of genius behind Vanilla Ice's signature song, *Ice Ice Baby*.

BLiNK
When this modern dance show closed at UVic's Phoenix Theatre, professional cleaners needed to be hired to remove traces of the white bodypaint that covered dancers' naked skin.
At Fringe, the cast of mostly UVic students and recent graduates will dance outside. They explore the human body and boundaries without clothing or words. This play definitely contains nudity—perhaps more than the performers bargained for if it rains.



JOSH THOMPSON PHOTO

Hundreds of 1932 Ford coupes, affectionately called "deuces," lined the streets in front of the Legislature to celebrate the car's 75th anniversary on July 29. There were more than 400 deuce coupes, along with over 350 other vintage cars from as far away as New York. In 1932, these cars would have sold for roughly $550.

CONCERT PREVIEW

People for Audio rock with banjo

Who: People For Audio (with Away and Ri'o!)
When: Thursday, Aug. 30
Where: Logan's Pub

by Marc Junker

If you are going to be in Victoria near the end of August, you have to catch People For Audio.

This Montreal group weaves a beautiful, serene sound that will steal you away. It's the music to listen to on the bus if you want to miss your stop.

They have released a fresh new album and are gathering their things to depart on the band's first cross-Canada tour. *The New Ancients*, People For Audio's second and most recent album, is an excellent deviation from a lot of contemporary music out there. The record has a wicked ambient and almost electronica feel to it. Each track is abundant with beautifully composed and almost symphonic melodies.

Although anchored by solid melodic rock grooves, the addition of epic riffs on banjo and lap steel—a bizarre guitar from Hawaii—makes their genre a little hard to define. Each member produces their own sound and together it forms one cohesive driving force. There is no front man in this group—just one flowing entity.

"We're not too concerned with what genre we fall under, and we're not trying to create one," said Keiko Devaux, who rocks keyboards in the group. "But the thought, imagery, and musical concepts that go into our music make it more than just a rock band."

Since their first album, People For Audio have modified their sound and certainly added to the quality of their tracks. The addition of a vocalist and lap steel make their set more eclectic and mesmerizing.

"Although our first album was usually labeled 'instrumental' or 'post-rock,' our second album inspires the genres to get a bit more creative," said Devaux. Be prepared for some solid instrumental sound waves with this group of talented musicians.

In addition to playing Logan's on Aug. 30, the band will play two back-to-back shows in Vancouver over the rest of the weekend—all the details are on the band's MySpace page.

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Munchie Bar supplier is torture survivor

James Bowen was imprisoned for four years in his home country before starting a successful Victoria café

by Gregory Virc

GREGORY VIRC PHOTO

Former policeman James Bowen spent four years in a Grenadian prison before eventually opening The Caribbean Village Cafe in Victoria.

If you've ever enjoyed one of the Jamaican patties at UVic's Munchie Bar, then you've supported James Bowen.

For the past 11 years, the owner and operator of The Caribbean Village Cafe on Quadra Street has been doing business with the UVic Students' Society and from time to time his logo-emblazoned mini van can be spotted on campus.

Bowen, a very tall black man with a distinct lilt of speech and dramatic mannerisms, is a remarkable person: an admirer of Leonard Cohen's poetry, an avid draughts player (a variety of checkers), and more notably, a victim of political repression.

Back in his home country of Grenada, a Caribbean island, Bowen was a very young police officer nicknamed "Babyface" when a communist revolution overthrew the Grenadian government of 1979.

It was 4 a.m. when he was dispatched with a group of about 20 officers to investigate an uprising at a military base in a place called True Blue. The police officers were greeted with a curtain of bullets, killing two of Bowen's colleagues and forcing the group's surrender. Bowen was detained as the sounds of the rebel takeover permeated the radio waves.

After a brief confinement Bowen was released, but he was not safe. A few days later he was arrested again—this time accused by the upstart government as being a dissident.

Without an official charge or trial, Bowen spent the next four years in prison, with the first 21 months of his incarceration in solitary confinement. It was during this time that he learned the true meaning of revolution: pain.

Various cruelties were devised for him. He was stabbed by a bayonet (for which he still has long snaking scars run down his back), his toenails were pried off and mock executions were staged—all, his torturers said, because "the revolution needed blood."

Bowen recollects one military officer who demanded to know about his part in a supposed plot to overthrow the government, for which Bowen could not possibly answer, as he had no part in it. To punish him, the officer enacted an involuntary game of Russian roulette—Bowen being the sole player.

But he was not shot that day, nor any other day. When asked why not, Bowen surmises that it was international pressure that kept him alive.

It would be four years until this same international pressure would garner him a release. Bowen passed time by observing the movement of light through his cell, or, after being moved out of solitary, playing chess or Scrabble with his cellmates.

In 1983, the Americans launched their morale-rousing "Invasion of Grenada." They arrived shortly after a split within the communist government, when another coup occurred. Bowen notes the coup was essentially a revolution within a revolution, reciting a variation of the German dramatist Georg Büchner's words, "The revolution eats its young."

Grenada, already a small country and now politically weakened by infighting, fell like a deck of cards to the Americans.

But Bowen does not lend an easy thanks to his liberators. Looking at the situation without self-interest, he states, "[The Americans] were rolling and bombing the crap out of Grenada.... It was one evil compounding another evil."

With an ironic detachment, Bowen cites that every Grenadian knows the number of U.S. marines killed in the invasion, but no one can give a number for the Grenadians that were lost.

Bowen adds an analogy of being stalked in the jungle by a hungry hyena who is overtaken by a lion. Do we stop to thank the lion?

Shortly after his release, Bowen involved himself with the Grenada Security Organization, which by extension was affiliated with the Trade Union Body of Grenada. It was through the trade union that the ousted socialist party members tried to reassert their power in Grenada. Needless to say, Bowen was unwelcome in the bureaucracy of the union, and after coming home to find his house riddled with bullets, he had enough. He left Grenada and started a new life in Victoria.

In a complete career turnaround, he began selling his homemade pastries to local restaurants and soon amassed enough capital to open his own café.

Located on Quadra Street south of Hillside Avenue for more than nine years, customers can usually find Bowen ensconced in a game of draughts or engaged in lively conversations with patrons. If you ask nicely, he'll gladly recite you his poetry, such as *Six Walls*, a poem ostensibly about, well, you guessed it.

For all his harried past, Bowen maintains an easygoing disposition and a Caribbean cool, something that a repressive political apparatus could not efface.

Six Walls
by James Bowen

Six walls stand with
all their might

Guarding me through
solitary plight

A wooden bunk
and a water pail

And nothing else
within the cell

Lying on that wooden bunk
with little space to turn

And all I can see
within the creases

Forty and one
cockroaches and fleas

With all of these
there is none to fear

Though conscious of
ten thousand sneers

For only one with
a resolute mind

Can go through all
and yet find

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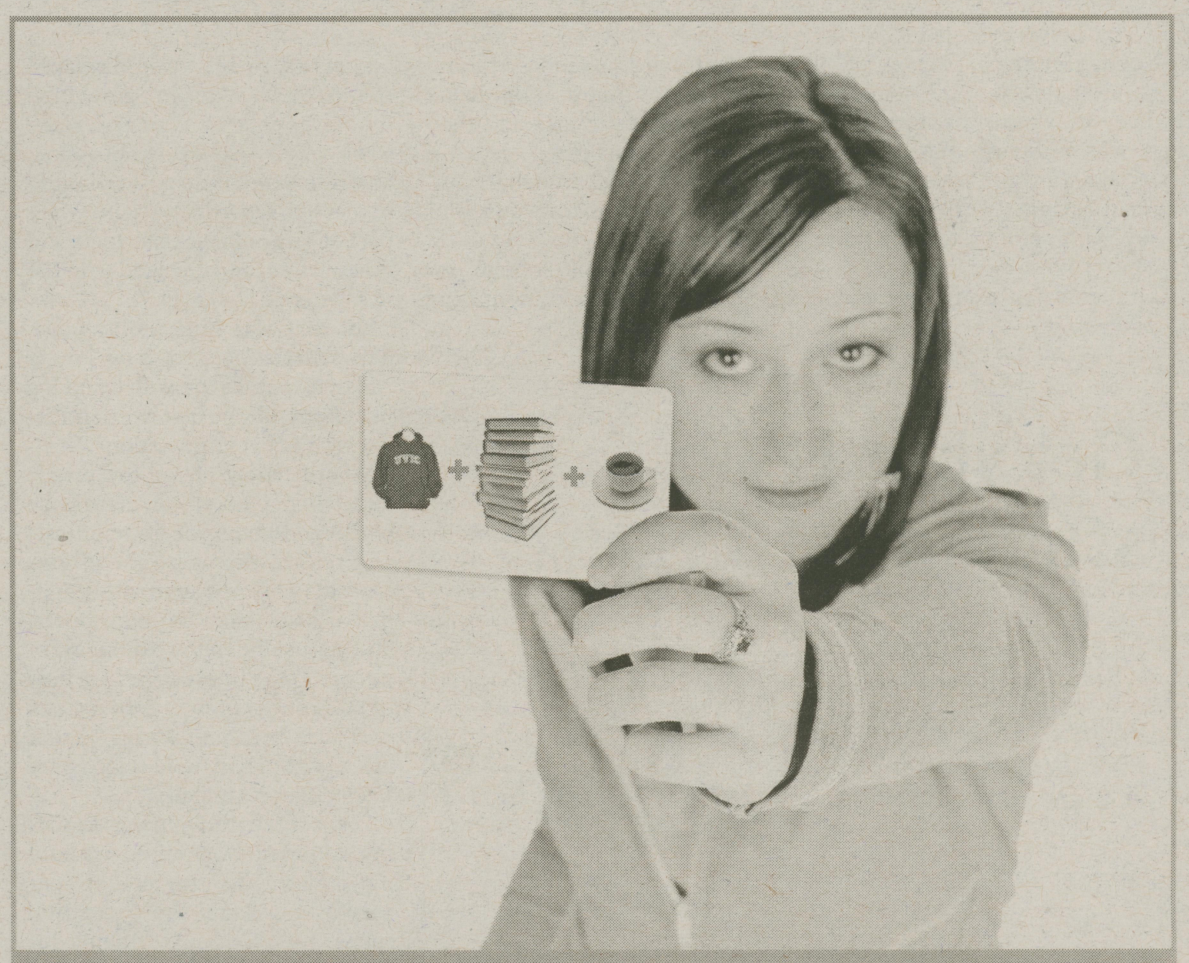
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Send in the clowns

Regular comedy shows are a tough sell in the Victoria market but there are still signs of a laugh life

by Melanie Tromp

Skeptics may tell you there isn't much to laugh about in these dark times, while others maintain their faith that laughter is the best medicine—albeit a tough one to find in Victoria.

It seems that the city has lost its sense of humour in recent years, after the enormously popular Yuk Yuk's franchise failed two decades ago, only to be followed up with an independent upscale comedy club on Yates Street that didn't last very far into the 2000s.

Back in 1987, Yuk Yuk's creator Mark Breslin attempted to launch his cross-national franchise in sleepy Victoria but fell short in terms of location, Victoria-safe humour and an inhibiting license that forced patrons to purchase food at all events.

In 2001, Maria-Jose Hernandez opened the Comedy Cellar in the basement of her father's Dominion Hotel. Located in the heart of the city's theatre district on Yates Street south of Blanshard Street, the club was modeled after the chic, arty showrooms of Vegas and was intended to double as an intimate jazz club and triple as a theatre for independent stage productions. Hernandez aimed to book high-calibre comedians for the weekends and promote local talent and private bookings Monday through Friday.

At the time, L.A.-based comic Mike MacDonald was quoted in the Times Colonist as saying "Thank God there are places like [the Comedy Cellar] in cities like Victoria, where it's actually fun to perform. I'd rather play here than those awful clubs in L.A. or Vegas where the people have seen everyone."

MacDonald entertained a receptive crowd on opening night in May 2001, but Victoria's comedy patrons didn't match his enthusiasm for the club itself. The Comedy Cellar closed its doors in 2003.

Unfortunately, stand-up isn't the only medium where the laughs seem to have run dry in a thinning humour market—satire and comic writing have all but disappeared from local mainstream media.

"Even Monday Magazine is rather earnest in terms of content," commented UVic professor David Leach, who writes humorous travel and relationship pieces for national magazines. The weekly recently received reader backlash for a story that searched for the 'F' in fun in Victoria. One reader wasn't pleased that a smoker was featured on the cover, either.

"There is not really a local market [for humour] in terms of publishing," Leach continued. "In fact, not a lot of people do humour well or do humour often in Canada as a whole."

Leach encourages his students to develop their sense for irony and hopes to teach a class on comedic writing at UVic in the future, although he admits that analyzing the roots and composition of humour unceremoniously kills the joke altogether.

"As an editor, finding someone that writes original humour well is difficult because everyone has a different sense of what they find funny," said Leach. "You have to translate comic timing and convey nuances, but purely through black dots on a white page."

So, after two failed attempts at comedy clubs and a drought in the field of comic writers, is the joke dead in our garden party city? Not quite, according to Leach, who cites Victoria-based journalist and filmmaker Andrew Struthers as being the funniest writer in town, if not in the country.

Struthers is responsible for YouTube mega hits including *Spiders on Drugs* and Quasimodo's response to Fergie's pop-tastic *My Humps*. A renaissance man in terms of wit, Struthers has created a side-splitting comic strip that ran in Monday Magazine and has also published numerous humour pieces (including the satiric legend *The Humour Genome Project*) when he isn't surfing.

"[Struthers] can take his skewed version of the world and match it with the right words and right places," said Leach, dubbing his colleague to be a "master of metaphor."

"He can both make you laugh and make you look at the world in a new way."

Fortunately, Struthers' comic genius isn't the only hope for Victoria's entertainment scene. Ticket sales for key autumn comic appearances are booming and UVic's own stand-up series, *You Must Be Joking?!*, had a successful run during the 2006-2007 winter term.

In March 2006, the UVic students' society (UVSS) premiered its homegrown comic show with help of host and headline comic Antoinette Keane. "It was [intended to be] a one-time event, designed to allow UVic students an opportunity to test out their stand-up skills," said former UVSS director of services Mark Chandler.

Due to the small number of comics at UVic, organizers opened up the roster to the community and consistently drew eight to 10 acts per show for three additional installments of *You Must Be Joking?!* in the fall term of 2006.

Although the future of the UVSS monthly stand-up nights is uncertain, "There is certainly a market for comic entertainment on campus at UVic," commented Chandler. "The monthly events at Felicita's were well attended. Overall, the feedback was very positive."

Perhaps the regularity of weekly comic revues is too much of a good thing for Victoria's stand-up scene, rendering the opening of any comedy club a project doomed from the start. Yet the city still laughs as major theatres continue to book high-profile comic acts including inspirational humorist David Roche this past June and massive Canadian superstars John Pinette (of Just for Laughs fame), the *Late Late Show*'s Craig Ferguson and international superstar Russell Peters to round out the upcoming autumn season.

Big name sell-out shows have been successful in Victoria for the past few years—Ryan Stiles and Colin Mochrie brought the improv hit *Whose Line is it Anyway?* to Victoria's Royal Theatre in May 2005 and the ever-popular *Just for Laughs* tour hit the Save-On-Foods Memorial Centre in November 2006.

Furthermore, Victoria's homespun improvisation group, the Impromaniacs, are actively performing the art of improv on a regular basis and 27 of the upcoming Fringe Festival shows involve comedic content of some variety.

Yuk Yuk's is interested in trying again in Victoria with a revamped business model if someone wants to invest in the franchise, but for now the city will forgo a comedy club while our major theatre venues are booking big comics. Meanwhile, local writers like Andrew Struthers are still willing to point out the ironic side of life and 2007's Fringe Festival shapes up to be one of the funniest yet.

Maybe there is still something to smile about in Victoria after all.

POST-EVERYTHING

Facebook nearing its death

by Kevin Ehman

By now we all know the story. First there was MySpace, that HTML-heavy stalk-a-thon where everyone had asymmetrical bangs and friends with names like Love Like A Vapor Trail.

And then came along Facebook, with its clean lines, sincerity, and insane instant gratification. It exploded among students and then went the unfortunate path of opening up to all humanity, including your co-workers and your too-old cousin.

I was never cool enough for MySpace. It seemed confusing and elitist, with its well-displayed friend totals akin to lame high school popularity contests. Facebook was aesthetically appealing, and it seemed more egalitarian.

I was hooked. All my friends were part of this online clusterfuck, so I dove right in and engaged with the best of 'em.

But that was nine months ago. Now, that's changed. I no longer wake up, put on the coffee and log in to hopefully be met by friend requests and event invitations.

Now, I barely check my profile and when I do, I can hardly be bothered to reciprocate wall posts and return messages. The groups I used to be a passionate member of have fallen by the wayside, and status updates are quite infrequent. So the question arises: how did this once potent Internet crack cocaine become boring—more like a joint of bad weed than a pure Colombian stimulant?

I have a few thoughts as to why my addiction was cured without my consent. In this era of sensory overload and short attention spans, we are always looking for something new. The advent of Facebook was damn near revolutionary, a discernible shift away from the social-networking structure that MySpace had created.

But that was more than a year ago. What's new, Zuckerberg? A bunch of bullshit applications that only complicate and overburden what was once a sleek and streamlined site. I enjoy being able to post my favourite tunes on my page, and the graffiti app is entertaining enough, but horoscopes and fucking zombies? Combine this with the glut of washed-up middle agers on the system, and what you have is a bloated, bastardized clone of any other failed or failing social networking site.

It would also seem as if honesty is disappearing. Now, instead of lists of favourite books and interests, you have a decreasing devotion to transparency. Perhaps this is simply Facebook's evolution, but I miss the days of "this is me, that is you." Many argue the Internet isn't exactly the best place for honesty, but coming off a pre-Facebook era of MySpace murkiness it was certainly a breath of fresh air.

So what's next for online pseudo-stalking and the creation of false personas? I predict the rise of a new network sometime in the next year. It seems only inevitable.

That's the joy of the times we live in. Don't like the way something works? Just wait a little while, because someone is already working on its replacement.

As for me, I'll keep drawing anti-Facebook propaganda on friends' graffiti walls until Zuckerberg sends me a cease-and-desist order. Add me and we can discuss this more—if I can muster up the effort to click Accept Friend Request.

T.K. LONGMIRE GRAPHIC

Facebook made a mistake when it let your grandparents sign up.

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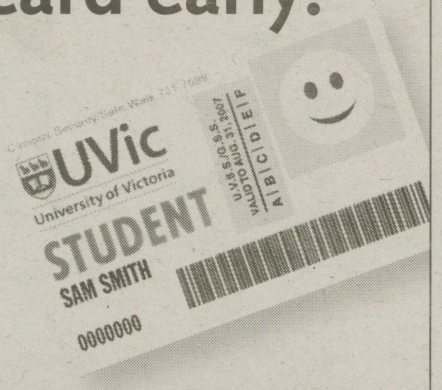
All students who are registered for fall courses can get their new student card or validate an existing one, starting August 22nd, 2007.



By obtaining or validating your card before September 1st you will be automatically entered in a draw for several gift baskets full of wonderful goodies. Your card will be ready to use as soon as it is validated.

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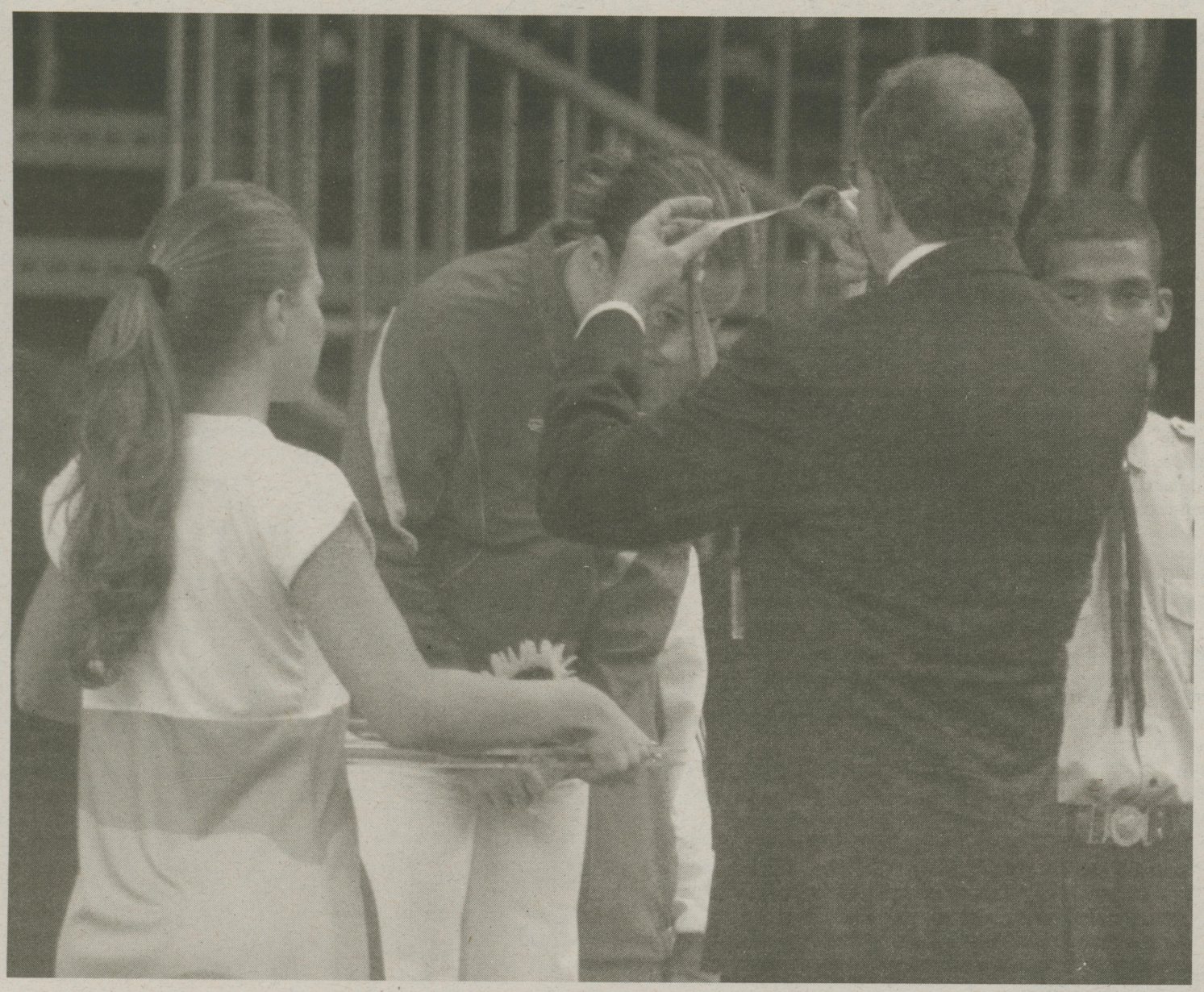

DAN PLOUFFE (CUP) PHOTO

UVic student and star Canadian fencer Monica Kwan made the podium twice at the Pan Am Games in July.

PAN AMERICAN GAMES

Kwan medals twice at Pan Ams

UVic fencing prodigy shows she may be ready for the 2008 Beijing Summer Olympics

by Dan Plouffe

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (CUP) — UVic fencer Monica Kwan cruised past eight consecutive opponents at the Pan American Games before she finally met something capable of stopping her—a spring.

Kwan was tied with Hanna Thompson of the United States at 14 hits apiece in the semi-final round of the women's individual foil fencing competition when Kwan's sword touched Thompson near her shoulder. This should have given her a victory on the deciding point, but Kwan wasn't able to press hard enough to trigger the spring-activated sensor on the end of her blade.

"I can't get over it. I was so close," said Kwan, who wound up with a bronze medal from the July 15 event, and added a silver from the team foil competition on July 20. "I know I can do better, but it gives me motivation to go further. I can't be unhappy with a medal, right?"

The narrow loss to the world's 23rd-ranked foilist—not to mention her other eight victories versus Pan Am fencers (her rivals for a 2008 Olympics spot)—was a big confidence booster for 35th-ranked Kwan.

"I didn't see the possibility of me beating [Thompson] going in," Kwan said. "I fenced her in January and she killed me [15-6], so I was very nervous going in. Coming out, it shows me I can beat her. I can do it—it was right there."

Kwan's Pan Am Games medals add nicely to the 23-year-old's resumé, which includes two consecutive Canadian titles and a Commonwealth championship. "I didn't even have a passport until three years ago," she said. "I'm a little girl from Victoria—I live on an island—so it's been a big thing for me."

Kwan was introduced to fencing by her older brother and was immediately attracted to the unique sport. Her weapon of choice has always been the foil, a descendant of the rapier. She rarely touches a sabre or épée, the other two disciplines in fencing.

Raised in Victoria, Kwan didn't begin fencing competitively until her late teens and participated in her first international competition only three years ago.

Kwan said her coach, Nan Sang Ho, is a big reason why she managed to develop as a fencer. One advantage of being in Victoria—not exactly a fencing hotbed—is that Kwan is able to get plenty of attention since there aren't many athletes there.

"If I want a lesson every day, I can get it. Rain or shine, [Ho] will give me a lesson. If we don't have a gym, we will literally go outside his house and fence there," said Kwan.

> "I know I can do better, but it gives me motivation to go further. I can't be unhappy with a medal, right?"
>
> *- UVic fencer Monica Kwan*

While it must be interesting for Ho's neighbours to watch sword fights in the driveway every now and then, it's rare that they witness an injury.

"It can hurt. I get bruises, but the [protective] material is quite strong," Kwan said. "I could pinch you and it would probably hurt more. If I can take it, it doesn't hurt that much," laughed the five-foot-three commerce student.

Kwan's diminutive stature doesn't help her much in a sport where a long arm reach can be quite an advantage. But she makes up for it in other ways, said Jean-Marie Baros, the Canadian fencing team leader for the Pan Am Games.

"She's a small girl, so she has to play to her strengths," Baros said, listing physical fitness and speed in closing the distance to her opponent as a few of Kwan's attributes. "I want her to fence closer to her opponent, and also to develop a bigger technical repertoire. But every time I see her, I feel that she has the winning desire. She's always fighting. Never stops."

Baros, a part-time national team coach who works at Montreal's Collège Jean-de-Brébeuf, believes that Kwan could enter the world's top 20 in the near future, noting she's a contender for a 2008 Olympics berth.

"I believe she can do it. What she needs is more support probably," said Baros. She suggested Kwan train in Europe or Montreal.

Kwan did try living in Montreal to train for awhile, but after she paid rent, there wasn't much cash left.

"It's expensive and fencing does not get a lot of money," Kwan noted. "We pay our own entry fees. All our equipment, we have to get it ourselves. If you're traveling this much and you're competing and you want to qualify for the Olympics, you don't have time to work either, because when you are at home, you should be training. This is what other countries do."

Still, Kwan is in a better situation than her women's foil teammates, since she's the only one who is carded—meaning she earns a monthly stipend from the federal government. However, Kwan is classified as a developing athlete, which nets her just half the amount that full-time athletes get.

For now, Kwan's back with her small club in Victoria, living with her parents and trying to find time to finish the last five courses of her degree.

To secure her spot at the Olympics, she'll need good results at the Pan Am Fencing Championships in Mont Tremblant, Que. later this summer, and at the World Championships in October.

"Obviously this year's an important year," Kwan said. "I'd love to go to Beijing."

SPORTS SHORTS

Downing unstoppable in pool

UVic's Mackenzie Downing has won seven medals—five of them gold—in three weeks.

She topped all three butterfly events at the 2007 Swimming Canada Summer National Championships in late July, winning the 50-, 100- and 200-metre events.

As if that wasn't enough, Downing also won a gold medal in the 800-metre freestyle event. Her 50-metre butterfly time was a record among B.C. and Yukon swimmers.

Downing continued her success on the world scene, winning gold in the 100-metre butterfly at the Universiade Bangkok 2007, the annual world championships for athletes who are enrolled in a post-secondary institution.

Downing also won a silver medal in the 200-metre butterfly event and a bronze medal with the Canadian 4x100 metre medley team in Bangkok, helping set a new Canadian record.

Triathlete wins in Sooke

UVic student Andrew McCartney has had a successful July and August.

The triathlete swam, cycled and ran his way to a win at the Sooke International Sprint Triathlon on July 22. McCartney finished only 14 seconds behind apparent winner Andre-Paul Baillargeon-Smith, who attends the University of Guelph.

But Baillargeon-Smith was later disqualified for going out of bounds on a tight turn during the bike ride.

"I would give you the medal, but I gave it to a little girl after the race. Hopefully that's cool with you," Baillargeon-Smith wrote on McCartney's Facebook wall.

McCartney carried his momentum into the ITU Triathlon Pan American Cup held Aug. 5 in Drummondville, Que. He placed 10th overall in the more competitive Olympic-distance race. He was also the third-fastest in the Under-23 age category. Baillargeon-Smith won the age category—without getting disqualified this time.

Mazzei repeats at Nationals

UVic's Darren Mazzei won his second consecutive 800-metre gold at the Canadian Junior Track and Field Championships.

The 19-year-old won the race July 29 in Abbotsford with a commanding performance. Mazzei took the lead after 200 metres and held it for the rest of the race, never appearing in danger of losing it. He won by almost a second, although his time of 1:52.21 was 1.61 seconds slower than his winning time in 2006.

Mazzei won't get to go for a three-peat next year. He'll be too old for the junior category, which is only open to athletes who are 18 or under on Jan. 1 of the current year.

Mazzei has been travelling with Canada's junior national team this summer. He competed at the Pan American Junior Championships in Brazil in July, where he came fourth in the 800-metre event.

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Visit our website to watch video of Darren Mazzei's July 29 victory.

Davis earns tryout with S-Kings

The Victoria Salmon Kings have confirmed that Drew Davis will attend the team's training camp in October.

Davis, who graduated from UVic with a political science degree in June, captained UVic's ice hockey team last year. Under the centreman's leadership, the team captured the first B.C. Intercollegiate Hockey League championship. Davis was the league's leading scorer and was named the championship tournament's most valuable player.

Salmon Kings coach Mark Morrison said the team doesn't invite many players to training camp, so Davis has a good shot at making the team. "Everyone at camp has a chance," Morrison said. "Otherwise, they wouldn't be here."

Davis quit hockey after playing in Junior B with the Victoria Cougars. "I just wanted to be at school. I wasn't enjoying playing hockey anymore," Davis said.

He came back last year to play for UVic. If Davis makes the Salmon Kings, he'll live his childhood dream of playing pro hockey.

- David Karp

PAN AMERICAN GAMES

Sister act shines for Canada

Andrea and Katie Rushton play key role for Pan Am Games team full of nation's top university athletes

by Dan Plouffe

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil — Team Canada finished in fifth place at the 2007 Pan American Games women's field hockey tournament, which ran from July 15-24 in Rio de Janeiro. The squad rebounded from a winless preliminary round with a pair of victories to grab fifth place in the eight-team tournament to equal its showing from the 2003 Games.

UVic's Katie Rushton, named a first-team Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) All-Canadian in November, scored one of Canada's seven total goals. Canadian captain Andrea Rushton, Katie's older a sister by five years and a former UVic Vike herself, also scored a pair for the team. Thirteen of the Canadian women's field hockey team's 16 members are current or former CIS players.

Andrea was disappointed that the team didn't get a chance to play for medals at the Games—Canada entered the competition ranked third among Pan Am countries.

"This is not what we expected for sure," she said after a 6-0 preliminary round drubbing by the United States, who eventually won the silver medal. That game was Canada's third loss in a row, after close Pool B defeats to Cuba and the Netherlands Antilles.

"There was a bigger gap in the other pool between the strength of the teams," Andrea said. "The gap in ours was a lot less and we came out on the short end of the competition."

Team Canada turned it around in the fifth to eighth place classification round. Led by the Rushton sisters with a goal each in a 3-0 win over Uruguay, Canada avenged its earlier defeat to Cuba with Andrea tallying the winner in the 3-2 game.

The sister act has played together on the national team since 2005 and have traveled almost everywhere—except Asia, where they're hoping to play in the 2008 Beijing Summer Olympics.

Katie and Andrea got into the sport with encouragement from their family. The Rushtons' aunt, Carrie Trumpy, played with the Vikes and coaches at the provincial level in B.C.

UVic was an easy choice for Andrea since she wanted to play university field hockey and was well-educated about what she called the "legacy of that program."

Katie didn't have much choice when it came time for her to pick a university. She'd been parading around in UVic colours since her early teens when she'd steal her sister's track suit.

"I pretty much couldn't go to UBC, because that's...just bad," Katie explained.

"That [track suit] was like my prized possession," Andrea said, "and Katie would always snag it and wear it around, so if I caught her coming home from school wearing it, she would run and hide around the corner or sprint home and try to change out of it so I wouldn't notice."

Back then, Katie "the terrorizer" used to fear the wrath of Andrea "the punisher." Now she counts on her older sister for support. Andrea, who has played over 100 games for Canada, was a big help during Katie's first contest with the senior national team in Vancouver two years ago against Australia.

"I was really scared of everything. It was all pretty overwhelming," 22-year-old Katie said. "To have Andy, who has played a lot and is really comfortable in her position, directing me—hearing that voice telling me to step left or step right, or, 'You need to pick up your mark'—it really helped me settle in with the team a bit more."

The Rushtons, known for their fiery competitiveness on the defensive end, have found some pretty good chemistry together. Or as Andrea puts it, "There's a little sister telepathy going on there, I think."

Both siblings have played field hockey abroad—Katie in Australia and Andrea in Holland. With only about a dozen matches a year with the Vikes, the Rushtons fill their schedule by playing in a Vancouver league that runs on weekends from September to March.

Andrea said that despite a big jump in skill level from the CIS to the national team, playing in the university championships served her well to make the transition.

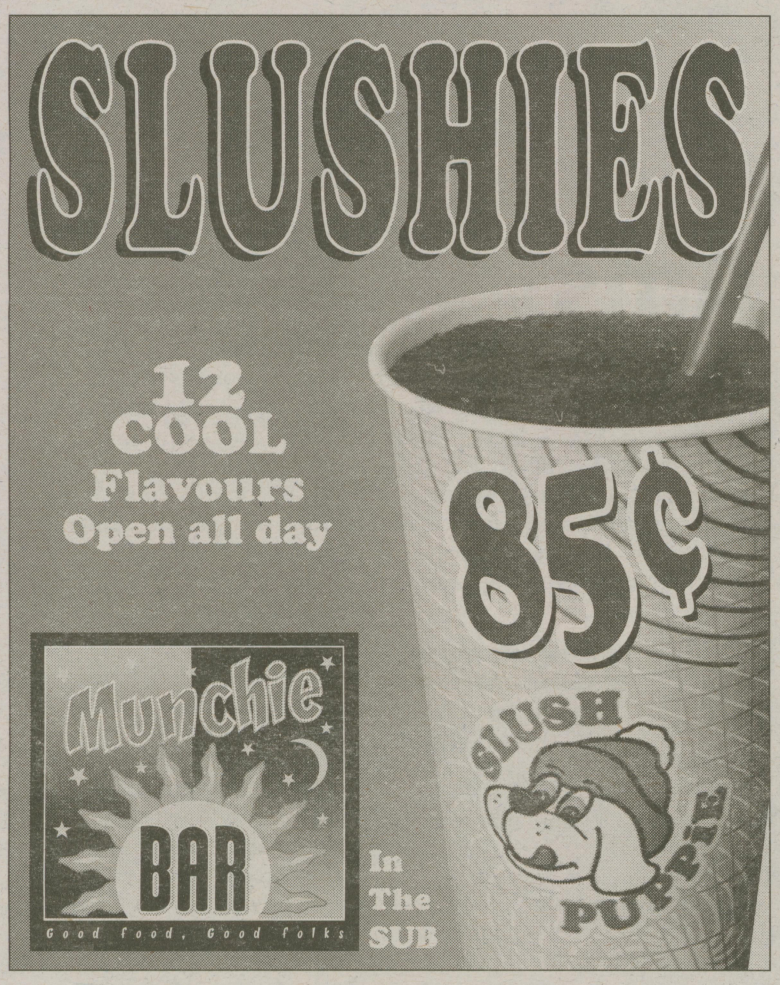
"Especially when we hosted nationals in Victoria, it was my first real experience of playing in front of people," she said. "UVic actually gets crowds out, so there's definitely more pressure with people watching you."

There weren't many spectators at the matches in Brazil due in large part to the isolation of the field hockey venue from the other Pan Am Games centres, but Andrea is counting on plenty of supporters for Canada's next big matches when UVic hosts a five-team Olympic qualification tournament in April and May 2008.

"I'm quite excited–it'll be nice to be at home and to compete in front of everyone," Andrea said. "It's going to be very intense obviously because only one team goes (to the Olympics). We just have to be really sharp and consistent–that'll be the biggest thing for us at that time."

DAN PLOUFFE PHOTO

UVic's Katie Rushton (left) along with sister Andrea (right) competed for Canada's field hockey team at the Pan Am Games.



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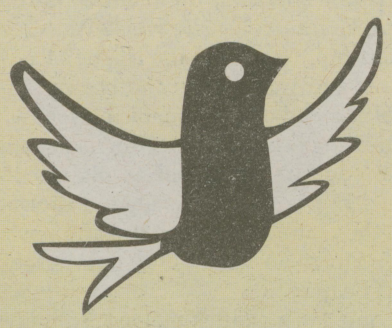

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